1948 '99 APR -9 A10:49 April 5, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061 Rockville, MD 20852.

Re: Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food"

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my deep concern with the possibility of eliminating irradiation labeling from our food. It is crucial that we consumers know how our food has been treated. Irradiation can create new chemical compounds called radiolytic products. The effect of these radiolytic products has have never been studied. Those who eat unlabeled irradiated foods will never know how the irradiated food is affecting their health. Irradiated foods also lose crucial vitamins.

Please help to ensure that the American people are not kept in the dark when it comes to our food choices.

Thank you for your concern,

April Angelene Parker

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1000-52805